

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**SH 2521959**

**AUDIO / VIDEO TRACKING SHEET**

**OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING FORM**

**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

**INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPTS AND AUDIOS (COMPACT DISC)**

1. Involved Deputy Ryan Goff – IAB Interview
2. Witness Deputy Antonio Del Rio – IAB Interview
3. Witness Deputy Jean Gonzales – IAB Interview
4. Witness Deputy Jake Adamo – IAB Interview
5. Witness Deputy Christopher Acuna– IAB Interview

### **EXHIBITS**

- A (1) DVD containing the Homicide Investigation Book, URN: 020-07652-2932-013.**
- B Special Bulletin, Wanted Flyer for Suspect Christian Sotelo Juarez.**
- C District Attorney's Letter of Opinion.**
- D Industry Scheduling Management In-service for PM shift, dated December 06, 2020. Industry Scheduling Management In-service for EM shift, dated December 07, 2020. Walnut/Diamond Bar Scheduling Management In-service for EM shift, dated December 07, 2020.**
- E Incident Report under URN: 920-11999-1418-326.**
- F (1) DVD containing recorded radio transmissions of Dispatch-8 channel during the incident.**
- G (1) DVD containing Body Warn Camera footage from the involved and responding personnel.**

## **MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS**

**Los Angeles County Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System report for Christian Sotelo Juarez, dated June 9, 2022.**

**Training and Weapon's qualification records for Deputy Ryan Goff.**

**Incident Report and Supplemental Reports authored by the assisting deputies, under URN:020-07652-2932-013.**

**(5) Administrative Rights Force / Shooting Investigation forms.**

# Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

## Officer Involved Shooting

Page 1 of 8

Report Date: 12/06/2020		Bureau/Station/Facility: East Patrol Division / Industry Station		Admin. Invest.? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hit? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Incident Information</b>					
URN: 020-07652-2932-013		Date: 12/06/2020		Time: 2347 hours	
City or Station: Rowland Heights		Nature of Incident: The suspect attempted to run over a deputy with his vehicle. The deputy tried getting out of the way but was unable to, leading to a Deputy Involved Hit Shooting.			
Location: Batson Avenue					
Location Type (check one or more): <input type="checkbox"/> Backyard <input type="checkbox"/> Beach <input type="checkbox"/> Business <input type="checkbox"/> Freeway <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parking Lot <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> Street Other:		Lighting (check only one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darkness <input type="checkbox"/> Daylight <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Street Lights  Weather (circle only one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Cloudy <input type="checkbox"/> Fog <input type="checkbox"/> Rain  Distance:		Incident Type (check one or more): <input type="checkbox"/> Accidental <input type="checkbox"/> Armed Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fleeing Suspect <input type="checkbox"/> Foot Pursuit <input type="checkbox"/> Gun Take Away <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moving Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Sniper/Ambush <input type="checkbox"/> Startle <input type="checkbox"/> Struggle Involved <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Stop <input type="checkbox"/> Unarmed Person <input type="checkbox"/> Unintentional <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Pursuit <input type="checkbox"/> Warrant Service <input type="checkbox"/> Warning Shot Other:	
Initiated by (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Arrest Warrant <input type="checkbox"/> Call <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One Person Unit <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Search Warrant <input type="checkbox"/> Two Person Unit  Prior Activity (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Detective <input type="checkbox"/> Inmate Transport <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routine Patrol  Aero Unit? <input type="checkbox"/> Canine Unit? <input type="checkbox"/>		Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy: 12		Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect: 0	
<b>Employee Witnesses</b>					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day	ShiftType (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty
None					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day	ShiftType (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day	ShiftType (check only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty
<b>Non-Employee Witnesses</b>					
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
None					
Street Address		City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Street Address		City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Street Address		City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
<b>Supervisors</b>					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(check one or more):	
	Castellanos III	Nicolas		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Duty <input type="checkbox"/> Present during shooting <input type="checkbox"/> Witness to shooting <input type="checkbox"/> Involved in shooting	
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(check one or more):	
				<input type="checkbox"/> On Duty <input type="checkbox"/> Present during shooting <input type="checkbox"/> Witness to shooting <input type="checkbox"/> Involved in shooting	
<b>Watch Sergeant</b>					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.		
	Hoyos	Daniel	NMN		
<b>Watch Commander</b>					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.		
	Baker	Christina	R.		

<b>PSTD Use Only</b>	
SH #	

Rollout Information				
Arrival Date 12/07/2022		Arrival Time 0128	Date Submitted	Date of Recommendation
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	
	Moreno	Dianne	NMN	
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	
	Arellano	Thomas	M	
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	

### Shooting / Force Information

Method				Type of Injury		Body Part Injured	
(AVV) Arwen	(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle	(AB) Abrasion	(AD) Abdomen				
(BC) Baton:(Control)	(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object	(BR) Bruise	(AK) Ankle				
(BI) Baton:(Impact)	(OO) Other Weapon: Other	(BU) Burn	(AR) Arm				
(BF) Bodily Fluids	(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)	(CP) Complaint of Pain	(BK) Back				
(CN) Canine	(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)	(CO) Concussion	(BT) Buttocks				
(CR) Carotid Restraint	(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)	(DH) Death	(CH) Chest				
(CH) Choke Hold	(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)	(DI) Dislocation	(EL) Elbow				
(CT) Control Holds:(Control Techniques)	(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)	(DB) Dog Bite	(FA) Face				
(TT) Control Holds:(Team Takedown)	(RS) Resistance	(FR) Fractures	(FE) Feet				
(TD) Control Holds:(Takedown)	(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)	(GS) Gunshot	(FI) Fingers				
(CE) Chemical	(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)	(HB) Human Bite	(GE) Genitals				
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)	(HB) Restraint Device:Hobble (Legs Only)	(LC) Lacerations	(GR) Groin				
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)	(TP) Restraint Device:Hobble (TARP)	(ND) Nerve Damage	(HD) Hand				
(EX) Explosives	(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt	(OD) Organ Damage	(HE) Head				
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)	(SP) Sap	(PA) Paralysis	(HI) Hip				
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)	(SH) Shield	(PW) Puncture Wound	(IN) Internal				
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)	(SG) 37mm Stinger	(SD) Soft Tissue Damage	(KN) Knees				
(FO) Firearm (Other)	(SB) Sting Ball	(ST) Sprain/Twists	(LE) Leg				
(FB) Flashbang	(ST) Stun Bag	(UN) Unconscious	(NK) Neck				
(FL) Flashlight	(TR) Taser		(SH) Shoulder				
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged	(UC) Uncooperative		(WR) Wrist				
<b>Brand</b>				<b>Refused Med Treatment</b>			
(AK) AK-47	(IV) Iver Johnson	(RO) Rossi					
(BN) Benelli	(JE) Jennings	(SW) Smith & Wesson					
(BR) Beretta	(LO) Lorcini	(SR) Sturm Ruger					
(BW) Browning	(LU) Luger	(SS) SIG Sauer					
(CH) Charter Arms	(MA) Marlin	(ST) Sterling					
(CO) Colt	(MO) Mossberg	(TA) Taurus					
(DA) Davis Industries	(NC) NCI aka SKS	(WE) Weatherby					
(GL) Glock	(NA) North American	(WN) Winchester					
(HA) Harrington & Richardson	(NO) Norinco	(US) US Government					
(HI) Hi Standard	(RA) Raven	(YY) Handmade (Inmate)					
(HK) H & K	(RM) Remington	(XX) Homemade (Non-Inmate)					
(IT) Ithica	(RG) RG	(ZZ) Other Brand					
	(RI) RGI						
				<b>Caliber</b>			
		(9) 9 mm	(24) .243 caliber	(41) .410 gauge			
		(10) 10 mm	(25) .25 caliber	(44) .44 caliber			
		(12) 12 gauge	(30) .308 caliber	(45) .45 caliber			
		(20) 20 gauge	(35) .357 caliber	(50) 50 mm			
		(21) .22-250	(36) 30-60 caliber	(SL) Slug			
		(22) .22 caliber	(38) .38 caliber	(WW) Other caliber			
		(23) .223 caliber	(40) .40 caliber				

**FORCE APPLIED** (one code per block)

[illegible]

# Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN: 020-07652-2932-013

Page 3 of 8

Involved Employee										
<b>E 1</b>	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
			Goff			Ryan		D		
	Sex: <b>M</b>	Race: <b>W</b>	Rank: <b>Deputy Sheriff</b>		Unit Assignment: <b>Industry Station</b>		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): <b>Unit 142A</b>			
	ShiftTime (circle only one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day		ShiftType (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used: <b>None</b>			
	Hospital Admission? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name: <b>St. Jude Hospital</b>		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: <b>10</b>		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket no Vest <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest		Other Factors:			
	Age:	Height: <b>600</b>	Weight: <b>185</b>							
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:		Laser Training Date:					
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings?	Number of Prior Shootings:	Directed Force:	
	Weapons Fired Brand: <b>Staccato, DR-1</b>		Caliber: <b>9 mm</b>		# Shots: <b>12</b>		Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber:	# Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.	
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.	
<b>E</b>	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
	Sex:	Race:	Rank:		Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):			
	ShiftTime (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day		ShiftType (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:			
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest		Other Factors:			
	Age:	Height:	Weight:							
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:		Laser Training Date:					
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Prior Shootings:	Directed Force: <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber:		# Shots:		Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber:	# Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.	
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.	
<b>E</b>	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
	Sex:	Race:	Rank:		Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):			
	ShiftTime (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day		ShiftType (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:			
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest		Other Factors:			
	Age:	Height:	Weight:							
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:		Laser Training Date:					
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Prior Shootings:	Directed Force: <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber:		# Shots:		Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber:	# Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.	
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.	

# Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN: 020-07652-2932-013

Page 4 of 8

Involved Employee												
E	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.				
	Sex: Race:		Rank:		Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):					
	ShiftTime (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day		ShiftType (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:					
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest		Other Factors:					
	Age:		Height:		Weight:							
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:		Laser Training Date:							
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>		Number of Prior Shootings:		Directed Force: <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber		# Shots		Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber		# Shots	
	Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.			
E	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.				
	Sex: Race:		Rank:		Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):					
	ShiftTime (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day		ShiftType (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:					
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest		Other Factors:					
	Age:		Height:		Weight:							
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:		Laser Training Date:							
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>		Number of Prior Shootings:		Directed Force: <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber		# Shots		Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber		# Shots	
	Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.			
E	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.				
	Sex: Race:		Rank:		Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):					
	ShiftTime (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> EM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/> Day		ShiftType (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:					
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one): <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest		Other Factors:					
	Age:		Height:		Weight:							
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:		Laser Training Date:							
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>		Number of Prior Shootings:		Directed Force: <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber		# Shots		Weapons Fired Brand:		Caliber		# Shots	
	Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name			M.I.			

# Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

URN: 020-07652-2932-013

Page 5 of 8

## Suspect Information

<b>S 1</b>	Last Name		Sotelo Juarez		First Name		Christian		M.I.	
	AKA Last Name		Juarez		First Name		Christian		M.I.	
	Sex: M	Race: Hispanic	Street Address:		City:		State & Zip Code:			
	Work Phone:		Home Phone:		Social Security #:		Driver's License #:			
	Age: 28	D.O.B. 12/19/1991	Height: 5'10"		Weight: 180		FBI #:		CII #:	
	Booking #		N/A		Primary Charge:		245(c) PC		Secondary Charge: None	
	Coroner Case? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #		2020-11381		Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used: Methamphetamine	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>		Apprehended? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:		Parole:		Probation: Yes	
	Jeep / Grand Cherokee / 2021								Prior Felony Conviction: Yes	

<b>S</b>	Last Name				First Name				M.I.	
	AKA Last Name				First Name				M.I.	
	Sex:	Race:	Street Address:		City:		State & Zip Code:			
	Work Phone:		Home Phone:		Social Security #:		Driver's License #:			
	Age:	D.O.B.:	Height:		Weight:		FBI #:		CII #:	
	Booking #				Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:			
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #				Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>		Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:		Parole:		Probation:	
									Prior Felony Conviction:	

<b>S</b>	Last Name				First Name				M.I.	
	AKA Last Name				First Name				M.I.	
	Sex:	Race:	Street Address:		City:		State & Zip Code:			
	Work Phone:		Home Phone:		Social Security #:		Driver's License #:			
	Age:	D.O.B.:	Height:		Weight:		FBI #:		CII #:	
	Booking #				Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:			
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #				Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>		Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:		Parole:		Probation:	
									Prior Felony Conviction:	

<b>S</b>	Last Name				First Name				M.I.	
	AKA Last Name				First Name				M.I.	
	Sex:	Race:	Street Address:		City:		State & Zip Code:			
	Work Phone:		Home Phone:		Social Security #:		Driver's License #:			
	Age:	D.O.B.:	Height:		Weight:		FBI #:		CII #:	
	Booking #				Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:			
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #				Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>		Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>		Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Vehicle Make		Model:		Year:		Parole:		Probation:	
									Prior Felony Conviction:	

# SUPPLEMENTAL NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

## Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Page 6 of 8

Non-Employee Witnesses			
Last Name	None	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph



# SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

## Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Page 7 of 8

### Employee Witnesses

Last Name	None	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

# SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

## Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Page 8 of 8

### Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph Home Ph

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

**INCIDENT:** On-Duty Hit Shooting, Suspect Deceased  
**IAB FILE NUMBER:** SH 2521959  
**URN#:** 020-07652-2932-013  
**DATE/TIME:** December 06, 2020, 2347 Hours  
**LOCATION:** [REDACTED] Batson Avenue, Rowland Heights, CA 91748

**SYNOPSIS**

On December 07, 2020, Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) Lieutenant Thomas Arellano, # [REDACTED] Sergeant Ernest Ferreras, # [REDACTED] and Sergeant Dianne Moreno, # [REDACTED] responded to the area of Fullerton Road / Colima Road, in the city of Rowland Heights, regarding an on-duty hit shooting. The incident involved Industry Station personnel and resulted in Deputy Goff's injury and the death of Suspect Christian Sotelo Juarez. On January 19, 2022, this case was reassigned to Sergeant Gabriel Akchyan.

IAB Lieutenant Thomas Arellano took reasonable steps to ensure the involved personnel were in the company of a supervisor and did not discuss the incident among themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators. In addition, IAB Lieutenant Arellano checked to see if the watch commander attempted to have involved and witness personnel gather in the company of a supervisor until they provided a statement to the assigned investigators.

Detectives Stephanie Shrout, # [REDACTED] and Jason Marx, # [REDACTED] from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau arrived and assumed control of the investigation. For further information refer to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide Investigative Book, under Uniform Report Number (URN) 020-07652-2932-013 [EXHIBIT A].

**SUMMARY**

On December 5, 2020, at approximately 2227 hours, Industry Station personnel were dispatched to a kidnapping call for service. During the investigation, Christian Sotelo Juarez (Suspect Sotelo), MH, 27 years old, was identified as the suspect. Investigators learned the suspect was driving a stolen, newer-model

white Jeep Cherokee. A Wanted flyer was created and distributed to Industry Station personnel [EXHIBIT B].

On December 6, 2020, at approximately 1258 hours, Suspect Sotelo's vehicle was located, and Industry Station deputies were involved in a vehicle pursuit. During the pursuit, Suspect Sotelo attempted to run over two deputies to avoid apprehension. Deputies lost site of the suspect's vehicle and the pursuit was terminated. Later that day, at approximately 1945 hours, Suspect Sotelo's vehicle was located again. Personnel from Walnut and Industry Station pursued the suspect's vehicle; however, the deputies lost visual of the suspect's vehicle and the pursuit was terminated.

On December 6, 2020, Deputy Ryan Goff, # [REDACTED] started his PM shift at [REDACTED] hours to work a security detail assignment, until [REDACTED] hours. He later worked an overtime shift at Industry Station as Unit 142A, from [REDACTED] hours.

Prior to start of the EM shift, Deputy Goff attended briefing, where the two pursuits involving Suspect Sotelo were briefed and discussed. Additionally, areas where Suspect Sotelo had been known to frequent were also discussed during the briefing.

After the briefing, Deputy Goff drove to Batson Avenue/Colima Road, in the city of Rowland Heights, to look for Suspect Sotelo (Suspect Sotelo's [REDACTED] resided in the area).

Deputy Goff drove southbound on Batson Avenue, from Colima Road, in the city of Rowland Heights. He observed a newer model white Jeep Cherokee, like the described vehicle Suspect Sotelo drove, backed into a carport stall outside of the security gate of an apartment complex at [REDACTED] Batson Avenue [REDACTED]. The vehicle did not have a front license plate and Deputy Goff did not see anyone inside the vehicle.

Deputy Goff made a U-turn on Batson Avenue, drove back to the apartment complex, made a right turn into the driveway which led to the parking lot, and parked his vehicle directly in front of the white Jeep Cherokee to inspect the vehicle. The hood of his patrol vehicle was positioned directly in front of the suspect's vehicle.

Deputy Goff exited his vehicle and shined his flashlight into the driver side of the white Jeep Cherokee, as he stood in the "V" of his patrol vehicle and the open driver's door. There was a person seated in the driver's seat of the white Jeep Cherokee. Deputy Goff made eye contact with the person and immediately recognized Suspect Sotelo from the kidnapping flyer [EXHIBIT B].

Deputy Goff requested the duplex patch on his radio, in an anticipation to detain Suspect Sotelo, the sole occupant of the vehicle, at gunpoint. Suspect Sotelo

immediately started his vehicle and told Deputy Goff, "Get out of the way or I am gonna fucking kill you!" [Goff Transcripts, page 4].

**IAB Note:** Sheriff's radio transmissions operate on a "simplex" channel, which means radio communication is only heard between the person transmitting and Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC). When the "duplex patch" is activated, it patches channels together, and changes the frequency from simplex to duplex. This means that deputies can now transmit directly to one another.

Deputy Goff attempted to get out of the way, but the suspect accelerated his vehicle and collided with Deputy Goff's patrol vehicle. The force of the collision caused Deputy Goff's patrol vehicle to rotate counterclockwise, trapped his right leg under his patrol vehicle and forced Deputy Goff to go down on his left knee. Deputy Goff's patrol vehicle was "pushed approximately eight and a half feet laterally across the pavement, then rotated counterclockwise toward its forced direction of travel" [EXHIBIT A, page 94].

From that position, Deputy Goff dropped his flashlight from his left hand and balanced himself as he placed his left hand on the ground, while he attempted to free his trapped right leg. Suspect Sotelo continued accelerating his vehicle, which pushed the patrol vehicle further on top of Deputy Goff's right leg.

Deputy Goff feared he would fall under the patrol vehicle, and the suspect would run him over with a vehicle. Deputy Goff fired a volley of rounds (12) at the suspect with a one-handed grip. The suspect's vehicle continued moving and collided with a security fence on the East side of the driveway and came to a stop.

Deputy Goff freed his right leg from underneath his vehicle, broadcasted his involvement in a Deputy Involved Shooting, and moved behind his patrol vehicle for cover. As he moved behind his patrol vehicle, Deputy Goff conducted a tactical reload. He then moved behind the corner of the apartment building for better cover, while he waited for assisting units to arrive.

While Deputy Goff waited for additional units to arrive, he gave verbal commands to Suspect Sotelo to show his hands and stay inside the vehicle. He also provided updates over his hand-held radio about the suspect's location and the exact address where the incident took place.

Once additional units arrived, Deputy Goff communicated to them what had transpired. A plan was devised to approach the suspect's vehicle to apprehend him and provide first aid as needed.

Deputies approached the suspect's vehicle and handcuffed Suspect Sotelo without any incident. Suspect Sotelo was seated in the driver's seat, with numerous gunshot wounds to his head and upper torso. Suspect Sotelo displayed obvious signs of being deceased and was not removed from the vehicle for crime scene preservation.

Shortly after, paramedics responded to the location and pronounced Suspect Sotelo deceased. Deputy Goff was transported to a local hospital and was treated for injuries he sustained to his right ankle.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S LETTER OF OPINION:**

The Justice System Integrity Division (J.S.I.D.) of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office reviewed the fatal shooting of Christian Sotelo Juarez by Deputy Ryan Goff. In their letter of opinion [EXHIBIT C], dated September 21, 2021, Head Deputy District Attorney Alan Yochelson concluded Deputy Goff acted lawfully in self-defense.

**INVOLVED EMPLOYEE AND WORK HISTORY:**

**Ryan D. Goff, Deputy Sheriff, #** [REDACTED]  
East Patrol Division  
Industry Station

Date of Employment:  
Date Assigned to Patrol:  
Date Completed Patrol Training:  
Prior Shooting Incidents:  
Prior Founded Force Incidents:

October 13, 2016  
[REDACTED]

**Equipment Worn On Person**

Deputy Goff wore a long-sleeved Class A uniform with a hat. He carried a 38 Special Airweight Smith and Wesson revolver as back-up firearm in his left front pants pocket and a Body-worn camera clipped to his shirt. His gun belt was equipped with the following:

STI Staccato 9MM semiautomatic pistol affixed with a tactical flashlight  
Torniquet attached to the front of the Kydex-style drop holster  
Folding knife clipped to the rear of the holster  
Key holder  
Two handcuffs  
Radio  
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray  
Three 9mm magazine pouches with magazines (two 20 rounds, one 21 rounds)  
Flashlight

Taser

PR-24 baton (in radio car)

**SUSPECT INFORMATION:**

**Christian Sotelo Juarez (Deceased)**

Male Hispanic, [REDACTED] D.O.B. December 18, 1992 (27 yrs. old),  
5'10" / 180 lbs. CDL# [REDACTED] CII # [REDACTED] MAIN # [REDACTED] FBI  
# [REDACTED]

A copy of Suspect Sotelo's criminal history is included in the Homicide Investigative Book [EXHIBIT A, pages 152-170].

**INJURIES:**

**Suspect Christian Sotelo Juarez's Injuries**

Suspect Sotelo sustained four (4) gunshot wounds. One (1) to his left ear, one (1) to his left cheek, one (1) to his right thumb, one (1) to his left thigh.

See Coroner's report [EXHIBIT A, pages 108-129].

**Deputy Ryan Goff's Injuries**

Deputy Goff complained of pain to his right ankle and right knee. He had a mild soft tissue swelling to the distal calf and anterior ankle pain.

Deputy Goff was medically treated at Providence Saint Jude Medical Center under Medical Record # [REDACTED] and later released.

See Medical Report [EXHIBIT A, Pages, 136-151].

Sergeant Nicolas Castellanos, # [REDACTED] completed Deputy Goff's injury report. Deputy Goff was on Injured on Duty status from 12/21/2020 to 1/15/2021.

**PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:**

The collection of all physical evidence was completed by Forensic Identification Specialists and Senior Criminalists from the Sheriff's Crime Lab, at the direction of Homicide investigators. All collected evidence was documented in the Homicide Investigation Book [EXHIBIT A, pages 81-93, and 100-107].

**INVESTIGATOR'S OBSERVATIONS:**

On December 7, 2020, at approximately 0128 hours, Internal Affairs Lieutenant Thomas Arellano, Sergeant Ernest Ferreras and Sergeant Dianna Moreno responded to the scene. Homicide Lieutenant, Scott Hoglund conducted a briefing of the incident then narrated an escorted walk of the scene.

The scene was described in detail by Homicide Detectives Marvin Jaramilla, # [REDACTED] and Amber Montenegro, # [REDACTED] [EXHIBIT A, pages 42-48]. Their description of the scene was consistent with the initial IAB Investigator's observations. The scene was also photographed by Sheriff's Crime Lab personnel. Included in the Homicide Investigation Book are aerial photographs of the scene, crime scene photographs, and photographs of the suspect's vehicle [EXHIBIT A, pages 100-107].

#### **WEAPON USED BY DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL:**

##### **Deputy Ryan Goff**

Deputy Ryan Goff fired twelve (12) rounds of Department issued 9mm ammunition from his department-authorized STI, Staccato, 9mm semiautomatic handgun, with a mounted optical Red-Dot sight.

The firearm was examined by Senior Criminalist Anny Wu, # [REDACTED] of Scientific Services Bureau Firearms Identification Section and found it to be functional [EXHIBIT A, pages 76- 77]. Homicide investigators conducted a "round count" at the start of the interview with Deputy Goff, to determine the number of shots he fired. There was one chambered bullet cartridge and an additional 21 live bullet cartridges in the magazine removed from the well of the firearm. A magazine recovered from the scene contained (8) live bullet cartridges. Deputy Goff did perform a tactical reload at the scene. [EXHIBIT A, page 44]. Prior to the shooting Deputy Goff's firearm was loaded to capacity with one (1) bullet cartridge in the chamber and twenty (20) bullet cartridges in the seated magazine

Date last qualified:

Date last trained with weapon:



#### **WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECT:**

##### **Suspect Christian Sotelo Juarez**

Suspect Sotelo utilized the vehicle he drove (White Jeep Cherokee, License#: [REDACTED]) as a weapon, to assault Deputy Goff. He was not otherwise armed during this incident and no weapons were recovered from the vehicle. [EXHIBIT A, pages 235-236].



### **PROPERTY DAMAGE:**

The unreported stolen vehicle, a 2021 white Jeep Cherokee, California license # [REDACTED] driven by Suspect Sotelo, had collision damage to the front passenger side headlight area, front driver side, and gunfire damage to the driver's door, rear driver side passenger's door, and the windshield.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) marked black and white patrol vehicle (Ford Crown Victoria), California license # 1339397, had collision damage to the front passenger side.

Collision damage to wrought iron carport fence of the apartment complex located at [REDACTED] Batson Avenue.

### **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION AND CHARGES FILED:**

Investigators: Los Angeles County Homicide Detectives Stephanie Shrout and Jason Marx.

Charges: None, Suspect deceased.

### **LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS:**

The incident took place on a driveway of an apartment complex, adjacent to a residential roadway, during the hours of darkness, on a clear night. The carports on North and South sides of the driveway had functioning lights. There was a functioning light affixed to the building/structure directly above the South carport, where the suspect's vehicle was parked. There was a streetlight on the West curb line of Batson Avenue. The radio car headlamps were on during the incident and provided additional illumination.

### **INVOLVED EMPLOYEE DEPUTY RYAN GOFF**

*The following narratives are intended only as a synopsis of the interviews. Additional information and precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interviews and verbatim transcriptions. IAB investigators reviewed any reports authored by the involved deputies.*

#### **Involved Employee Deputy Ryan Goff**

##### **Internal Affairs Bureau interview**

On May 11, 2022, IAB investigators, Sergeant Gabriel Akchyan and Terrence Smith interviewed Deputy Ryan Goff. Deputy Goff was represented by Mitchell Kander, an attorney with the Law Offices of Charles Goldwasser. The interview

was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview.

On December 06, 2020, Deputy Goff was adjusted to start his regular PM shift at [REDACTED] hours, until [REDACTED] hours [EXHIBIT D]. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Deputy Goff said he had approximately 10 hours of sleep the night before.

Prior to the start of his shift, he checked his emails and saw a flyer of a suspect (Suspect Sotelo), who was wanted for Kidnapping and Assault with a Deadly Weapon charges [EXHIBIT B]. Units from Industry Station had already been in a vehicle pursuit of the suspect during the day shift; that information was passed on during briefing. He printed the wanted flyer and had it in his patrol vehicle.

That evening, he heard over his hand-held radio another pursuit involving Industry Station deputies and the same suspect. Because the speeds were over 100 MPH and deputies lost visual of the suspect's vehicle, the pursuit was terminated.

After his shift had ended at the Sheriff's residence, he went back to Industry Station, and prepared to start his Early Morning Overtime shift as Unit 142A, from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] hours [EXHIBIT D]. The Aero bureau personnel landed on the station's helipad, and they conducted a briefing with the entire shift about the pursuits involving the wanted kidnapping suspect (Suspect Sotelo) and how to utilize Aero bureau's resources.

During the briefing, Suspect Sotelo's [REDACTED] residence was mentioned, on Batson Avenue, in the city of Rowland Heights, where the suspect had frequented. Deputy Goff said he had a short conversation with his Watch Commander, Lieutenant Christina Baker, # [REDACTED] about him going into that area and looking for the suspect.

He said from the station he drove straight to Batson Avenue, in Rowland Heights. He drove Southbound on Batson Avenue, from Colima Road, and looked for a White Jeep Grand Cherokee, a type of vehicle Suspect Sotelo drove.

As Deputy Goff drove Southbound on Batson Avenue, to his left (East), he saw a White Jeep backed into a middle stall of an apartment building's parking lot, which faced North. The vehicle did not have a front license plate. Deputy Goff made a U-turn on Batson Avenue and drove up to the location to check the vehicle.

He made a right turn (Eastbound) onto the driveway of the apartment complex located at [REDACTED] Batson Avenue. The area was an unsecured parking lot before the gated parking lot of the complex. There were three parking stalls to the

South and three parking stalls to the North of the driveway, with residential units directly above the South parking stalls. The white Jeep Cherokee was parked in the middle parking stall on the South side.

Deputy Goff parked his patrol vehicle perpendicular to the white Jeep Cherokee, in an "L" shape position, with the hood of his patrol vehicle approximately 10-15 feet in front of the Jeep. Deputy Goff could not see if there was anyone inside the vehicle.

The white Jeep Cherokee was parked underneath the building, the interior of the vehicle was completely dark. As he stood in the "V" of his patrol vehicle and the open driver door, with a flashlight in his left hand, Deputy Goff shone the light into the driver seat area of the white Jeep Cherokee. The person seated in the driver's seat looked up and Deputy Goff immediately recognized him as Suspect Sotelo from the wanted flyer [EXHIBIT B]. He immediately keyed his radio, said "10-33, give me the patch", and drew his weapon. Deputy Goff said that was the only information he was able to transmit on his radio, because Suspect Sotelo immediately started his vehicle and yelled, "Get out of the way or I am gonna fucking kill you!" Deputy Goff described Suspect Sotelo's demeanor as angry.

Deputy Goff attempted to get out of the way and walked back, but Suspect Sotelo accelerated his vehicle and collided with the patrol vehicle. The collision caused a loud, "explosion" like sound and the tires screeching [Goff Transcripts, page 4]. Deputy Goff said his only avenue of escape was to the West, toward Batson Avenue.

Suspect Sotelo's vehicle collided with Deputy Goff's patrol vehicle, which caused the patrol vehicle to slide in counterclockwise direction. As the patrol vehicle slid, it collided with Deputy Goff's right leg, folded Deputy Goff's right knee, dropped him to the ground, and trapped his leg under the patrol vehicle. As Deputy Goff attempted to free up his leg, Suspect Sotelo accelerated his vehicle, which made it impossible for Deputy Goff to pull his leg out. Suspect Sotelo accelerated with such force, that Deputy Goff was pushed down to his left knee. While on his left knee, Deputy Goff dropped his flashlight from his left hand and utilized his left hand to balance himself on the ground, with his right leg trapped under his patrol vehicle. To his left was the car door, to his right was his vehicle, which pushed against him, and to his back was the street; however, he was not able to stand up to retreat in that direction.

Deputy Goff attempted to push himself up; however, Suspect Sotelo's vehicle continued to push Deputy Goff's vehicle, and caused his foot to be trapped even further. At this point, Deputy Goff thought either he would be run over by his own vehicle, or he would be pinned down and not be able to defend himself. Deputy Goff thought if he cannot get out of that position or do something fast, he would die.

When his right leg was "knee deep" under his patrol vehicle, he knew that he could not get out of that position **[Goff Transcripts, page 22]**. Deputy Goff feared he would be killed and chose to use his firearm. He had the wall of the carport as his backdrop and an unobstructed view of the suspect.

When Suspect Sotelo's driver door area was aligned with his position, he believed that was his last opportunity to do something. He fired a burst of rounds (8 to 12 rounds) from his duty weapon at Suspect Sotelo. He utilized a one-handed grip, while on his left knee, with his right leg trapped under his patrol vehicle and his left arm on the ground to balance himself. The shots were fired from an approximate distance of 5-15 feet, as the white Jeep's driver door was up against the hood of his patrol vehicle, with its window down. He fired from the "V" of his vehicle, with his weapon between the driver door and the A pillar over the spotlight. He shot until he was able to pull his right leg out. Deputy Goff described his shooting position as "100% uncomfortable" **[Goff Transcripts, page 33]**. He did not see anyone else inside the suspect's vehicle during the shooting.

Deputy Goff saw rounds hit the driver's door area and then Suspect Sotelo disappeared within the vehicle. Suspect Sotelo's vehicle "veered off to the right and crashed" into the wrought iron gate and came to a stop **[Goff Transcripts, page 19]**. Deputy Goff was able to free up his right leg from underneath his patrol vehicle, moved to the rear of his vehicle, conducted a tactical reload, and broadcasted his involvement in the Deputy Involved Shooting. After the shooting, his reassessment was to get behind cover with a fresh magazine in his weapon and wait for assistance. He then took a position at the corner of the building.

Deputy Goff did not know if the suspect was shot. During the shooting, he utilized A pillars of his vehicle for cover. He knew they were made from re-enforced metal. Deputy Goff said the sequence of events that transpired from the time he shone his light at the suspect's vehicle, until the conclusion of the shooting, happened in approximately 10 seconds.

As Deputy Goff waited for the assisting units to arrive, a resident from the apartment complex who heard the commotion, came out, asked if he was ok, and provided the exact address to the location, which he broadcasted to the assisting units.

Deputy Goff said it took approximately 3 minutes for assisting units to start showing up. Walnut/Diamond Bar Station units were also "patched in." Deputies Muehlich, Adamo, Aleman, and Jaramillo were one of the first units to arrive. He said there were approximately 8-10 patrol cars at his location and the rest blocked off the streets and coordinated the containment. Once Aero bureau was overhead, they formulated a team to contact Suspect Sotelo to either render aid or take him into custody. Deputy Goff said he knew he either hit the suspect and

he was laying down because he was hurt, or the suspect was waiting to ambush them. Deputy Goff gave his Taser to Deputy Adamo from the contact team for less-lethal coverage. He did not remember if a supervisor was present during the approach.

Once they approached the suspect's vehicle, he could see Suspect Sotelo was "hunched over" in the driver's seat, with his head leaning to the East. Suspect Sotelo was not moving and did not say anything. He had multiple gunshots to the head and body, and there was lots of blood throughout the vehicle. Deputy Goff said Suspect Sotelo appeared deceased.

Deputy Goff did not see any weapons nor anyone else inside the suspect's vehicle. He did not know if first aid was rendered to Suspect Sotelo. Once assisting units handcuffed Suspect Sotelo and cleared the vehicle, he walked away from the location.

Deputy Goff said he was part of the contact/arrest team because the scene was still active and he had a chance to study the area, knew the locations of innocent bystanders and residential units.

Deputy Goff was transported to Saint Jude Medical Center for treatment to his injured right leg. Sergeant Nicolas Castellanos, # [REDACTED] EM Shift Field Sergeant, was present in the hospital with Deputy Goff. At the hospital, Deputy Goff provided the safety statement to Deputy Daren Jaramillo, # [REDACTED]. He did not speak with anyone else, until he was released from the hospital and was taken back to Industry Station by Sergeant Castellanos. At the station, he met with his attorneys and was interviewed by Homicide investigators. He watched his Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage after he gave his statement to Homicide investigators.

Deputy Goff said the location of the incident was in Walnut/Diamond Bar Station's jurisdiction, approximately 1000 feet outside of Industry Station's jurisdiction. Deputy Goff had no previous calls for service at the location of incident and had no prior contact with Suspect Sotelo.

At the time of the incident, Deputy Goff had his BWC for approximately five weeks. He activated his BWC after the shooting. He turned his BWC completely off during the briefing with Aero Bureau and forgot to turn it back on.

During the interview with Homicide investigators, Deputy Goff said he saw a methamphetamine pipe on the suspect's lap when the contact team approached the suspects' vehicle; however, during IAB interview, he did not remember seeing any pipes.

**IAB Note:** During the crime scene processing, investigators located a glass narcotic pipe containing white residue laying in Suspect Sotelo's lap [EXHIBIT A, page 70].

## **WITNESS EMPLOYEES**

### **Deputy Antonio Del Rio**

#### **Internal Affairs Bureau Interview**

On April 27, 2022, IAB investigators interviewed Deputy Del Rio in the IAB offices in Commerce. Deputy Del Rio was represented by Attorney Amy Johnson from Rains, Lucia, Stern firm.

On the date of the incident, Deputy Del Rio worked as a Watch Deputy on PM Shift. He was relieved at [REDACTED] hours by the EM shift Watch Deputy; however, his shift did not end until [REDACTED] hours; therefore, he grounded his gear (Wallet, Keys, BWC) and went into the report writing room to check his emails. He was in his Class A uniform with his duty weapon in a holster on his belt (No Sam Brown belt). Deputy Del Rio was the person who responded to the initial kidnapping call for service on December 5, 2020, and authored the report under URN: 920-11999-1418-326 [EXHIBIT E].

Deputy Del Rio heard an emergent radio broadcast of a "998", at Batson Avenue in Rowland Heights. He ran out to the parking lot and got into a patrol vehicle with Deputy Coberg, Unit 144F2, EM Shift [EXHIBIT D]. They responded Code-3 to the location, and it took them approximately 5 minutes to arrive.

**IAB Note:** The term "998" is a radio code utilized to identify a deputy involved shooting.

Upon arrival, he saw Deputy Goff stood behind a wall of the apartment building, while detaining a white vehicle at gun point. Deputy Del Rio saw several bullet holes on the driver's door of the suspect's vehicle. The suspect's vehicle was in the unsecure driveway of the apartment complex. The suspect's vehicle had collided with the wrought iron fence of the apartment complex and had visible damage to its front.

Deputy Del Rio said they waited for few additional units to arrive and then formulated a plan to approach the suspect's vehicle. There were several deputies present at the location. Deputy Del Rio remembered Deputies Banuelos, Gonzales, and Adamo being part of the initial contact team. When everyone was in place, he approached the suspect's vehicle from the driver side and Deputy Gonzales approached from the passenger side. They handcuffed the suspect's hands behind his back. Based on his observations of the suspect's

condition (pale, unresponsive, not breathing, gunshot wounds to his head), they decided to preserve the scene and requested paramedics to their location. After the suspect's vehicle was secured, Deputy Del Rio helped with the crime scene preservation.

### **Deputy Jean Gonzales**

#### **Internal Affairs Bureau Interview**

On May 17, 2022, IAB investigators interviewed Deputy Gonzales at the IAB office in Commerce. He was represented by Attorney Amy Johnson from the Rains, Lucia, Stern firm.

Deputy Gonzales was at Industry Station when he heard the emergent radio traffic regarding a Deputy Involved Shooting. He responded to the location Code-3, in tandem with several other Industry Station units.

Once he arrived at the location, he saw a traffic collision between the patrol vehicle and the suspect's vehicle. He saw Deputy Goff was "limping." Deputy Goff relayed to them that the suspect inside the vehicle was the same suspect from the kidnapping incident the day before. Deputy Goff also told them that prior to their arrival, he gave verbal commands, but the suspect did not respond.

The assisting units formulated a tactical plan to approach Suspect Sotelo's vehicle, to secure the suspect and render first aid. Deputy Gonzales approached the suspect's vehicle on the passenger side and give verbal commands to the suspect to show his hands. He was assigned the "lethal" force option during the approach. He opened the passenger door and grabbed the suspect's right arm. The suspect's hands were down in his lap area. He and Deputy Del Rio handcuffed the suspect's hands behind his back. Deputy Gonzales observed obvious signs of Suspect Sotelo being deceased, due to injuries to his head and brain matter on his face. The decision was made to preserve the scene and call for paramedics.

Deputy Gonzales escorted fire department personnel to the scene, where Suspect Sotelo was pronounced dead. Deputy Gonzales then looked for innocent bystanders who might have been injured due to the shooting and canvassed the area for potential witnesses.

### **Deputy Jake Adamo**

#### **Internal Affairs Bureau Interview**

On May 4, 2022, IAB Sergeant Gabriel Akchyan interviewed Deputy Adamo at Industry Station.

On December 6, 2020, Deputy Adamo was assigned to Unit 143T2 on EM shift. Deputy Adamo heard the Deputy Involved Shooting on Batson Avenue, in the city of Rowland Heights, from a radio transmission, while he was at Industry Station. When Deputy Adamo arrived at the location of the shooting, he observed Deputy Goff and Deputy Muehlich at the corner of the apartment building, utilizing the building's corner as cover. He also saw the suspect's vehicle in the parking lot of the location, with the suspect in the driver's seat.

Deputy Adamo said after more assisting units arrived at the location, they devised a plan and approached the suspect's vehicle, to clear the vehicle and provide first aid to the suspect.

Deputy Adamo said he was assigned to be the designated person with a less lethal weapon, a Taser. He said Deputies Goff, Del Rio, Banuelos, and Gonzales were part of the contact team.

Deputy Adamo said after the suspect was handcuffed by the members of the contact team, he did a quick pat down for weapons. He did not locate any weapons on the suspect; however, he found a baggy of white substance, resembling methamphetamine from the suspect's left front pants pocket. Deputy Adamo said the suspect was unresponsive with visible head injuries. Deputy Adamo placed the baggy back into the same pocket where he found it, to preserve the crime scene.

Deputy Adamo said after the vehicle was cleared and the suspect was handcuffed, they requested for paramedics to respond. Once paramedics arrived, Deputy Adamo's involvement was crime scene preservation and crowd control.

### **Deputy Christopher Acuna**

#### **Internal Affairs Bureau Interview**

On April 28, 2022, IAB Sergeant Gabriel Akchyan, interviewed Deputy Acuna in Walnut/Diamond Bar Station.

On Monday, December 07, 2020, Deputy Acuna was assigned to the Walnut/Diamond Bar Station, working Unit 293D, on EM Shift, from [REDACTED] hours [EXHIBIT D].

Deputy Acuna heard an assistance request over his radio regarding a Deputy Involved Shooting, involving Industry Station's personnel in the area of Batson Avenue, in the city of Rowland Heights. The location was within his assigned patrol jurisdiction. He responded Code-3 to the location along with several other units from Walnut/Diamond Bar Station.



Upon arrival, he saw 3-4 units at the location. All the deputies were facing the suspect's vehicle, a white SUV, with their weapons drawn, and gave verbal commands. The deputies decided to approach the suspect's vehicle. Deputy Acuna said all the deputies on the contact team were from Industry Station and he did not know them personally. Deputy Acuna approached the suspect's vehicle, with the contact team, from the passenger side. He opened the rear passenger's door and saw the suspect in the driver's seat. The deputy, who attempted to handcuff the suspect, told him to push the suspect forward so that he could complete the handcuffing. Deputy Acuna pushed the suspect forward with his hand, in the right shoulder area, allowing for the deputies to complete the handcuffing, without any resistance. He then exited Suspect Sotelo's vehicle and assisted with traffic control.

### **RADIO TRANSMISSIONS:**

*The following is a timeline summary based off of radio traffic from radio frequency, Dispatch-8.*

December 6, 2020

**23:47:20** - Emergency Patch requested.  
**23:47:31** - Unit 142A - 998 – Batson South of Colima.  
**23:48:10** - 140S acknowledged and responded.  
**23:48:17** - 142A advised all deputies were accounted for, suspect was down in the vehicle and had not moved, requested 902R, additional units to respond.  
**23:48:31** - Aero asked for the location.  
**23:48:43** - 142A confirmed no outstanding suspects.  
**23:49:00** - Unit coordinated containment of scene.  
**23:49:14** - 142A provided exact address of the location [REDACTED] Batson Avenue.  
**23:49:21** - Unit continued containment of scene.  
**23:49:33** - SCC- advised Walnut Station was now patched in with Industry Station.  
**23:49:42** - Unit continued containment of scene.  
**23:50:12** - Unit advised approximately 10 units exited the freeway.  
**23:50:27** - 142A – advised to have Fire staged at Fullerton and Colima.  
**23:50:37** - 141K1 and 141T1 advised Code-6.  
**23:50:42** - Aero advised of one minute ETA.  
**23:51:08** - 140S advised of two minute ETA.  
**23:51:12** - 292 (Walnut Unit) responded Code-3.  
**23:51:23** - Unit directed responding units from which direction to approach the scene.  
**23:51:33** - Unit asked which direction 142A was facing.  
**23:51:45** - 142A provided the direction he was facing.  
**23:51:55** - Unit advised several units were Code-6 and Aero was overhead.  
**23:52:46** - Unit confirmed the suspect was still in the vehicle.

23:52:58 - 141K1 advised they were approaching suspect's vehicle.  
23:53:15 - Units approached suspect's vehicle and attempted to take suspect in custody.  
23:53:35 - Fire was cleared to roll in.  
23:53:54 - Unit requested fire for the injured deputy (142A). Continued with containment and requested tactical frequency.  
23:54:45 - 297 (Walnut) Code-6.  
23:54:53 - Unit continued with inner and outer containment. Requested two-man unit to escort injured deputy.  
23:54:55 - 147B responded to injured deputy's location.  
23:54:57 - Unit provided injured deputies exact location - [REDACTED] Batson Avenue.  
23:55:20 - Unit advised the injured deputy was in stable condition with an injury to his ankle.  
23:55:54 - 140S - Code-6.  
23:55:57 - Major Incident Log requested to be started on both entry points.  
23:56:20 - SCC - A Tac-3 had been reserved.  
23:56:32 - Units took injured deputy to Colima and Batson to meet with fire.  
23:56:48 - Ambulance arrived. Injured deputy was taken to pre-designated location.  
23:58:00 - Unit coordinated containment with Aero and locations where crowds had gathered.  
23:59:00 - CP was being set up, injured deputy had been transported to meet with fire.  
23:59:30 - 140S - CP was set at Fullerton and Colima.

December 7, 2020

00:00:00 - Unit coordinated injured deputy's transport.  
00:01:00 - Unit advised injured deputy had been transported.  
00:03:00 - Switched to A Tac-3, patch cleared.

All radio traffic associated with this incident is included as [EXHIBIT F].

#### **VIDEO RECORDINGS:**

There were no video recordings of the shooting incident located or identified.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Deputy Banuelos, who was part of the contact and arrest team, had resigned from the Department and was not available for an interview.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
BUREAU OF PROSECUTION SUPPORT OPERATIONS  
JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION

GEORGE GASCÓN • District Attorney  
SHARON L. WOO • Chief Deputy District Attorney  
VICTORIA L. ADAMS • Assistant District Attorney

RONALD GELTZ • Director

September 21, 2021

Captain Joe Mendoza  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
Homicide Bureau  
1 Cupania Circle  
Monterey Park, California 91755

Re: Officer Involved Shooting of Christian Sotelo  
J.S.I.D. File #20-0440  
L.A.S.D. File #020-07652-2932-013

Dear Captain Mendoza:

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the December 6, 2020 fatal shooting of Christian Sotelo by Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Deputy Ryan Goff. Our detailed analysis of this incident is contained in the attached memorandum.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN  
District Attorney

ALAN YOCHELSON  
Head Deputy District Attorney  
Justice System Integrity Division

cc: Deputy Ryan Goff, # [REDACTED]

## MEMORANDUM

TO: CAPTAIN JOE MENDOZA  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
Homicide Bureau  
1 Cupania Circle  
Monterey Park, California 91755

FROM: JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION  
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

SUBJECT: Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Christian Sotelo  
J.S.I.D. File #20-0440  
L.A.S.D. File #020-07652-2932-013

DATE: September 21, 2021

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the December 6, 2020, fatal shooting of Christian Sotelo by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Deputy Ryan Goff. We have concluded that the deputy acted lawfully in self-defense and defense of others.

The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting at approximately 1:21 a.m., on December 7, 2020. The District Attorney Response Team (DART) responded to the location, and was given a briefing regarding the circumstances surrounding the shooting and a walk-through of the scene.

The following analysis is based on investigative reports, audio recordings, the autopsy report, crime scene sketches, photographic and video evidence, and witness statements submitted by LASD Homicide Detectives Jason Marx and Stephanie Shrout.

### **FACTUAL ANALYSIS**

On the evening of December 5, 2020, Sotelo assaulted and kidnapped his [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. During the kidnapping, Sotelo discharged a firearm which was left at the scene. Several hours after the kidnapping, [REDACTED] was located and transported to the hospital by her [REDACTED] for treatment of the injuries she received as a result of Sotelo's beating. She was interviewed at the hospital by Sheriff's deputies and confirmed other witnesses' accounts of the assault and kidnapping.

During the 24-hour period following the kidnapping, Sotelo was involved in two separate high-speed vehicular pursuits with Sheriff's deputies who were attempting to apprehend him. Both times Sotelo managed to evade capture.

Goff learned about the kidnapping and Sotelo's "wanted" status while performing duties as part of a special security detail on December 6, 2020. Goff acquired additional information that evening prior to starting his overtime shift. Goff was aware that Sotelo was last seen driving a white Jeep Grand Cherokee<sup>1</sup> and that Sotelo may still be in possession of a firearm. When his shift began, Goff drove to Batson Avenue and Colima Road to conduct a patrol check based on information that Sotelo's [REDACTED] lived in the area. At an apartment complex on Batson Avenue, Goff saw a white Jeep Grand Cherokee backed into a parking stall.

Goff pulled into the parking lot to get a better look. However, Goff was unable to run a license plate number search because the Jeep did not have a front license plate. Goff exited his patrol car and shined a light on the Jeep. Through the windshield, Goff saw Sotelo look up from behind the steering wheel. Goff immediately recognized Sotelo as the kidnapping suspect based on a wanted poster that Goff had previously seen.

Goff activated his radio channel in anticipation of detaining Sotelo at gunpoint. Sotelo then yelled, "Get the fuck out of the way, or I'm going to kill you!" Goff drew his service weapon. Sotelo started the Jeep and put the vehicle in drive. Goff attempted to move out of the way, but Sotelo gunned the engine and struck the front passenger side of the patrol car. The patrol car was pushed sideways into Goff who was positioned near the open driver's side doorway. Goff's right foot became wedged under the patrol vehicle. Goff tried to balance himself on his left foot and yelled at Sotelo to stop. However, Sotelo continued to push the Jeep forward as indicated by the sound of the Jeep's screeching tires and the patrol vehicle's lateral movement into Goff.<sup>2</sup>

Fearing for his life, Goff fired his duty weapon at Sotelo. While firing, Goff pulled his right leg free and backpedaled. Goff continued to hear the sound of screeching tires and sensed that Sotelo was still trying to drive through him. Goff fired his weapon again. The Jeep collided with a closed carport gate and stopped. Goff retreated to the back of his radio car for cover and conducted a tactical reload of his pistol. Goff broadcast that a deputy involved shooting had occurred and held his position until other units arrived. Goff issued commands to Sotelo to show his hands, but Sotelo did not respond.

Once other units arrived, Goff and fellow deputies Jeane Gonzales, Antonio Del Rio, Ruberto Banuelos and Jake Adamo devised a tactical plan to extract and arrest Sotelo. Together they approached the Jeep and opened the driver's side door. Del Rio and Gonzales handcuffed Sotelo. They quickly ascertained that Sotelo was deceased.<sup>3</sup>

Goff was issued a body worn camera (BWC) approximately two months prior to this incident. Although Goff activated the BWC at some point during the incident, he did not do so soon enough for the camera to capture footage of the shooting. The BWC did capture several minutes of Goff aiming his weapon at the driver's side of the Jeep as other deputies converged on the scene.

---

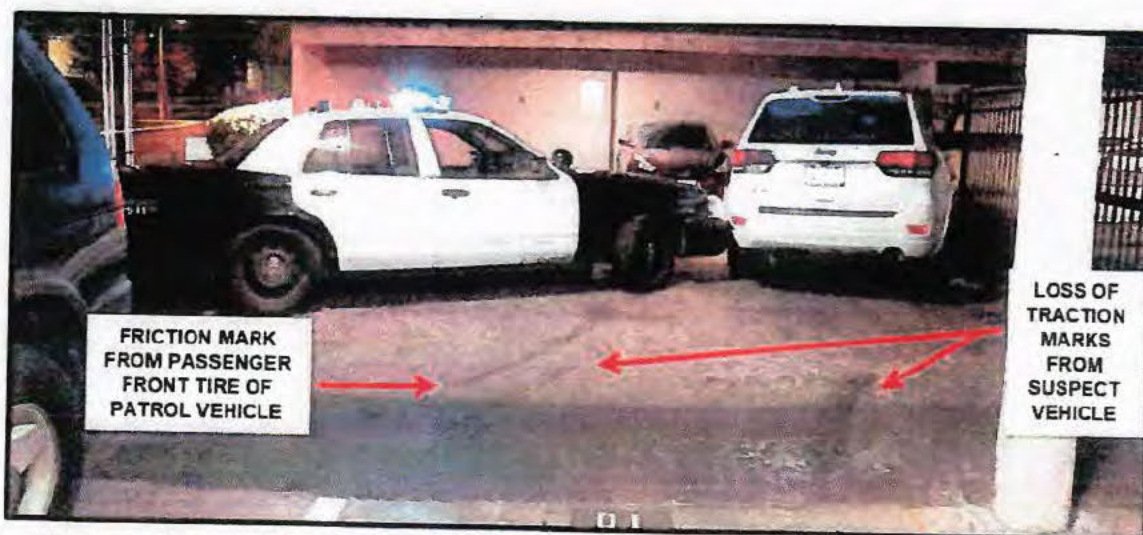
<sup>1</sup> Investigators determined that Sotelo had stolen the Cherokee from the Puente Hills Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep dealership.

<sup>2</sup> Goff sustained a right ankle sprain as a result of the incident.

<sup>3</sup> Sotelo was formally pronounced dead a short time later by a firefighter paramedic from Los Angeles County Fire Station 145.



During the shooting investigation, traction marks were observed behind the Jeep between the parking space it had occupied when Goff arrived and the wrought iron gate with which the Jeep collided. Another arc-shaped friction mark corresponded with the path the patrol car's front end took when pushed by the Jeep.



**Figure 1:** Photograph above shows the tire marks made by Jeep Grand Cherokee and Goff's patrol car.

Front end damage to both the patrol car and the Jeep corroborated Goff's statement about what occurred. The Jeep incurred additional front-end damage when it collided with the carport gate. Neither of the vehicles' crash data retrieval systems registered any collision data suggesting that the force of collision was insufficient to register an event. Spackling was observed on the side of the Jeep near the wheel wells indicating that the tires were spun at high velocity, lost traction, and then threw molten rubber against the side of the car. The collision analysis provided by LASD Traffic Services Detail concluded that the initial impact between the vehicles was at low speed; that the driver of the Jeep intentionally accelerated in an effort to push the patrol car out of the way; and that the Jeep continued to accelerate forward until it struck the wrought iron fence.



**Figure 2:** Photograph shows front end damage to vehicles from the Jeep ramming the patrol car.

Deputies canvassed the area for witnesses. A few nearby residents reported hearing gunfire, but no one actually saw the shooting. One witness, [REDACTED] stated that he looked out his window



and saw a deputy detaining a suspect at gunpoint [REDACTED] reported hearing approximately ten gunshots and then looked out her bedroom window to see a deputy pointing a gun at a white sport utility vehicle. [REDACTED] saw the deputy move towards the trunk of his own car, then walk over to the wall on the north side of the driveway (consistent with activity seen on Goff's BWC footage). Another witness, [REDACTED] shot cell phone video footage of Goff moving to cover behind the patrol car.

Eleven bullet holes were found on the driver's side exterior of the Jeep, most of them to the driver's side door. A number of corresponding interior holes were found. The bullet holes were rodded. The resulting trajectories displayed a pattern fanning across the driver's door consistent with the vehicle moving past Goff as he fired. Expended bullets and bullet fragments were recovered from the Jeep's front passenger seat, the front passenger interior door panel, and the driver's door.

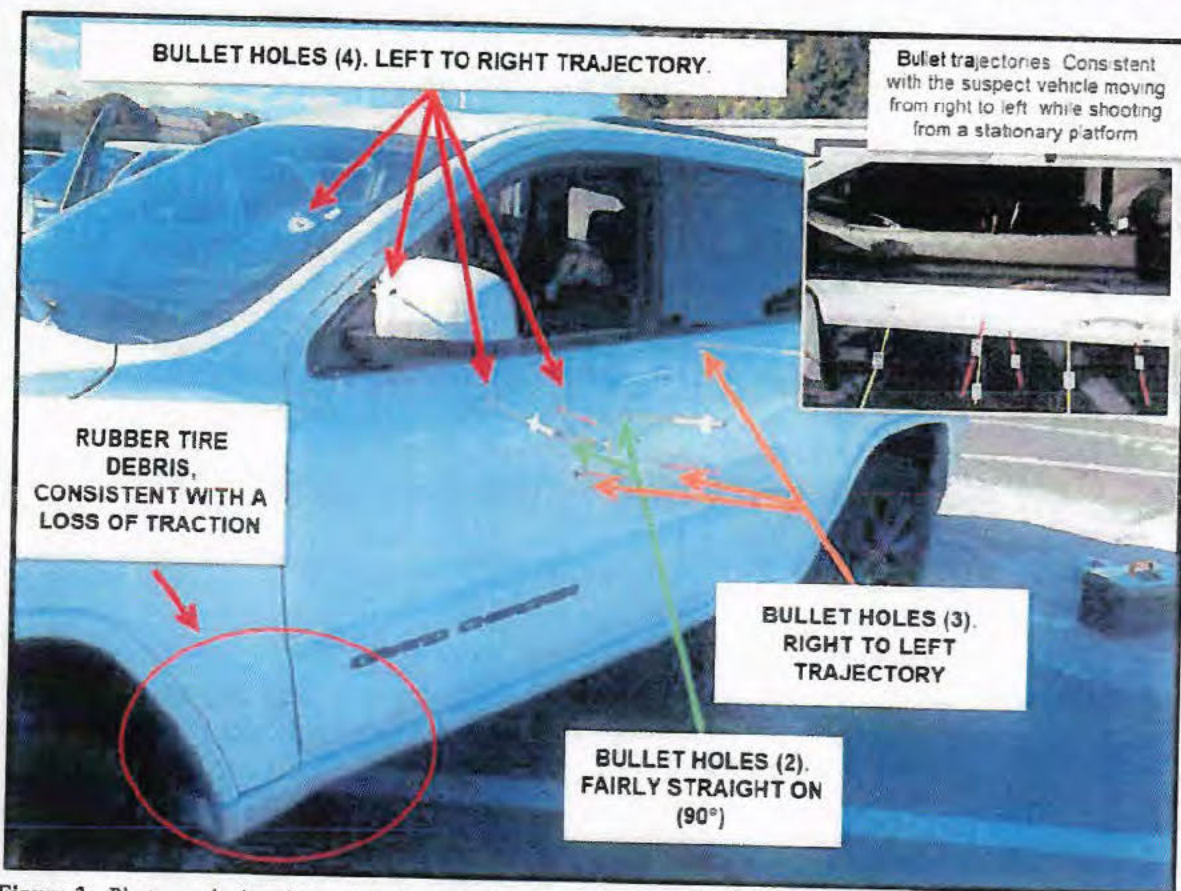
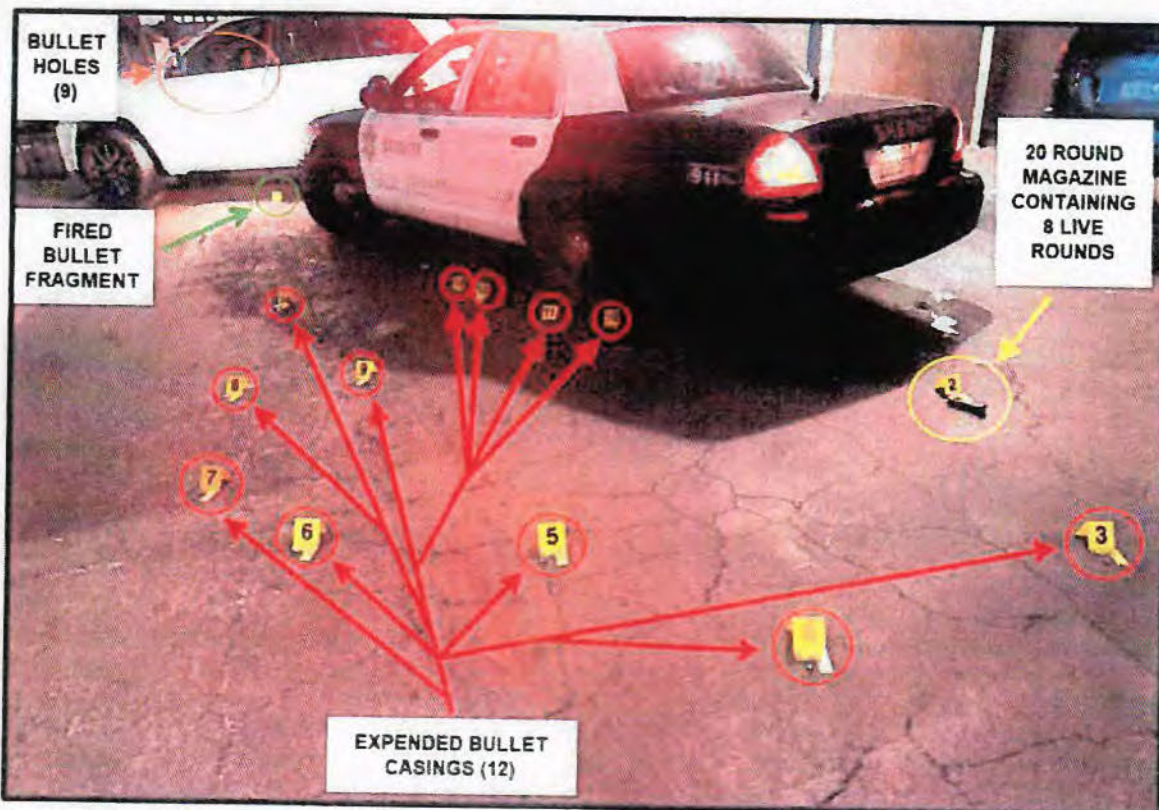


Figure 3: Photograph showing rodded bullet holes displays a pattern consistent with rounds being fired as the vehicle moved past the shooter. Inset photograph shows an overhead view of the rodded bullet holes.

Goff's service weapon, a Staccato Model P 9mm semiautomatic pistol, was examined and found to contain one live round in the chamber and 21 rounds in the mounted magazine. Goff's two spare magazines contained 20 rounds each. Goff's discarded magazine (dropped during the tactical reload) was found near the back of the patrol car and contained eight live rounds. Twelve shell casings bearing identical FC 9mm Luger head stamps were found scattered along



the pavement on the driver's side of the patrol car and provided evidence consistent with Goff's account of the shooting. The evidence is consistent with Goff having fired 12 rounds.



**Figure 4:** Evidence markers in the photograph above show the locations of spent shell casings and other items of evidence.

A LASD crime analyst recovered a glass narcotics pipe containing narcotics residue from Sotelo's lap. A clear plastic baggie containing methamphetamine was found in Sotelo's front left pocket.<sup>4</sup> No firearm was recovered from the Jeep.

On December 10, 2020, Deputy Medical Examiner Job Augustine performed an autopsy on Sotelo's body. Augustine concluded that death resulted from multiple gunshot wounds. Four gunshot wounds were described in the autopsy report. Two of the gunshot wounds were specifically denoted as fatal. The first fatal wound resulted from a bullet that penetrated the left ear, traveled front to back, left to right, and slightly upward into the brain. The second fatal wound was caused by a bullet that penetrated the left cheek, traveled front to back, left to right, and upward into the brain. Sotelo also suffered nonfatal gunshot wounds to the right thumb and his lower left thigh. Deformed bullet jackets were recovered from his body corresponding with each of the four wounds. A toxicology report confirmed the presence of methamphetamine in Sotelo's bloodstream.

<sup>4</sup> Laboratory analysis by the LASD Scientific Services Bureau confirmed that the baggie contained methamphetamine.



## LEGAL ANALYSIS

California law permits the use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of others if the person claiming the right actually and reasonably believed that he or others were in imminent danger of great bodily injury or death. Penal Code § 197; *People v. Randle* (2005) 35 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 987, 994 (overruled on another ground in *People v. Chun* (2009) 45 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 1172, 1201); *People v. Humphrey* (1996) 13 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 1073, 1082; *see also*, CALCRIM No. 505.

A peace officer is justified in using deadly force upon another person when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary for either of the following reasons: (1) to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person; or (2) to apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Penal Code § 835a (c)(1)(A) & (B).

A threat of death or serious bodily injury is imminent when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable officer in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or another person. An imminent harm is not merely a fear of future harm, no matter how great the fear and no matter how great the likelihood of the harm, but is one that, from appearances, must be instantly confronted and addressed. Penal Code § 835a (e)(2).

In assessing the totality of the circumstances, all facts known to or perceived by the peace officer at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of deadly force, is taken into consideration. Penal Code § 835a (a)(4) & (e)(3). The peace officer's decision to use force is not evaluated with the benefit of hindsight and shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force. Penal Code § 835a (a)(4).

In evaluating whether a police officer's use of force was reasonable, it is helpful to draw guidance from the objective standard of reasonableness adopted in civil actions alleging Fourth Amendment violations: "The 'reasonableness' of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than the 20/20 vision of hindsight. . . . The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments – in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving – about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation." *Graham v. Connor* (1989) 490 U.S. 386, 396-397.

The evidence in this investigation reveals that Goff encountered Sotelo while working alone on patrol. Sotelo was a wanted and dangerous suspect who had recently committed a crime of violence against his girlfriend that sent her to the hospital. Goff found Sotelo behind the wheel of a vehicle that Sotelo had recently used to evade police capture in two high speed pursuits. When Sotelo saw Goff, he immediately threatened to kill the deputy and then proceeded to ram the patrol car presumably in an effort to push the vehicle out of the way so that Sotelo could flee. By engaging in this action, Sotelo clearly acted in wanton disregard for the deputy's safety. After becoming

imperiled by the force of his own vehicle being pushed into him by the Jeep, Goff fired his duty weapon resulting in Sotelo being shot and killed.

Sotelo had the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to cause immediate death or serious bodily injury to Goff and others. Due to the fact that Sotelo had placed Goff's life in danger, and had also committed a felony that threatened death or serious harm to others the previous day, Sotelo presented an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm that needed to be immediately addressed. Under these circumstances, it was reasonable for Goff to use deadly force to defend himself and to protect the public from further potential harm. In so doing, Goff acted in a manner consistent with how an objectively reasonable peace officer would react in similar circumstances.

## **CONCLUSION**

We find that Deputy Goff acted in lawful self-defense when he used deadly force against Christian Sotelo.